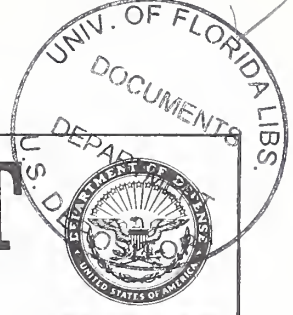


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COMMANDERS DIGEST

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vol. 2, No. 74

September 14, 1966

DOD Recommends Permanent Special Evacuation Allowance

The Defense Department has recommended enactment of permanent legislation authorizing payment of special evacuation allowances for military dependents.

Representing DOD in testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee on H.R. 11979, Captain Glendon D. Williams, USN, said, "If this legislation is enacted, it is contemplated that the implementing regulation would be world-wide in scope."

The new bill has been passed by the House.

A measure which terminated June 30 permitted evacuation allowance only "from places outside the United States to places inside the United States."

Captain Williams explained to the committee, "This interpretation has created an inequity and has unfairly discriminated against United States citizens whose homes happen to be in one of the extra-Continental United States or a territory or possession of the U.S."

The committee was informed that the permanent authority would only be used as an expedient in the event it may again be necessary to evacuate dependents from an area outside the U.S. due to unusual or emergency circumstances.

Captain Williams said a review of evacuations effected during the last three and one-half years conclusively points up to continuing need for permanent evacuation allowance authority.

MTMTS Offers Guidance On Household Goods Shipment

The best time for a serviceman to move his household goods is between October and May, according to Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service (MTMTS) officials in Washington.

The worst time is during the summer and at the end of months.

"Beyond a doubt," said MTMTS officials, "the best time of the year to move is from October through May—and the best time of the month is from the third to the 25th."

While most servicemen have no choice as to timing their moves, there are occasions when they are able to avoid the mid-June to mid-September peak rush.



NEW STARS—Lt. Gen. John A. Heintges, USA (left), Deputy Commander, U.S. Military Assistance Command Vietnam, congratulates Maj. Gen. Stanley R. Larsen, commander of I Field Force Vietnam, on his promotion to lieutenant general. Col. Donnelly P. Bolton (right), Chief of Staff, IFFV, looks on.

DOD Directive Encourages Off-Duty GI Bill Study

A Department of Defense directive encourages eligible active duty personnel to "avail themselves of voluntary off-duty educational opportunities" provided in Public Law 89-358.

The law provides educational assistance allowance through the Veterans Administration.

DOD directive 1322.7, signed by Deputy Secretary of Defense Cyrus R. Vance, notes that use of off-duty education opportunities would assist individuals:

- In performing military assignments more efficiently.
- In preparation for more responsible military assignments and increase chances for promotion.

In-service education, the directive explains, would also help individuals in maintaining continuity in academic or vocational training begun before entering military service; increase value to the civilian manpower pool when separated from the Armed Forces; and contribute to a person's appreciation of the quality of American life.

Under the law, active duty military personnel who have completed less than two years of active duty service are ineligible to receive in-service educational allowances from the VA.

Washington Memos

LATEST DOD CASUALTY report shows 4,993 U. S. service personnel lost their lives in Vietnam through actions of hostile forces from Jan. 1, 1961 through Sept. 3, 1966. Non-hostile actions claimed lives of 1,058.

DENMARK'S MINISTER OF Defense, Victor Gram, arrived in Washington Sept. 7 for a tour of Defense activities in the U.S. Stops on tour include: Naval Academy; Headquarters Strategic Air Command and North American Air Defense Command; Air Force Academy; Headquarters 6th Army and Naval activities in San Diego and Camp Pendleton, Calif.

AIR FORCE ACTIVITY in Vietnam continued to increase during August with greater numbers of strikes on military targets in North Vietnam and air attacks on communist concentrations in South Vietnam rising to a record 7,324 sorties.

U.S. TRACKING STATION at Robledo, Spain, kept operational during recent moon "shot," despite mid-August forest fires that burned up 500 to 600 feet of cable. U.S. Air Force helicopter and five fire engines joined forces with civil guards and military personnel dispatched by Spanish Air Ministry to combat fires, which occurred during recent Lunar Orbiter flight, National Aeronautics and Space Administration said.

FIRST DOD-INDUSTRIAL Symposium on Numerical Control Data will be held in Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 3-6. Symposium objective is "to review commonality of numerical control systems and determine capabilities for interchange of software and data for maximum return on government and industry investment."

VANDENBERG AFB, CALIF., major has designed symbol identifying Strategic Air Command's security education and motivation program. Major Clarence L. Shivers, 1st Strategic Aerospace Division, won SAC Inspector General symbol contest with design incorporating motto: "Every Man A Link."

FOUR AIR FORCE officers and two civilian employees will be honored by Air Force Association, "for exceptional achievement in management of aerospace resources." AFA's fall meeting will be held in Washington, D.C., Sept. 14-16.

NAVY HOSPITAL CORPSMEN in Vietnam provide close, front line medical support to Marines during patrols or offensive operations. As of Sept. 1, they had earned 18 Silver Stars, 33 Bronze Star Medals, 25 Air Medals, and 14 Navy Commendation Medals. More than 400 Purple Heart Medals have also been awarded.

GEN. JAMES FERGUSON assumed command of Air Force Systems Command Sept. 1, succeeding Gen. Bernard A. Schriever, who retired after more than 32 years in Air Force. Gen. Ferguson was formerly deputy chief of staff for research and development, Headquarters, USAF.

BUY AMERICAN OVERSEAS and bring it home free is advice U.S. Navy Ship's Store is offering servicemen. Navy points out that items manufactured outside U.S. are subject to customs duty and can add to original cost. Navy also stresses that buying American helps to curb "Gold Flow."

CIVIL AIR PATROL'S 25th anniversary, Dec. 1, has been designated National Civil Air Patrol Day by President Johnson. Presidential proclamation calls on citizens to observe day with ceremonies and activities appropriate to anniversary. CAP is volunteer civilian auxiliary of U. S. Air Force whose members' activities include assistance in meeting local and national emergencies and disasters.

PREPARATORY SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS enabling young men to prepare for Naval Academy are available to high school seniors who are sons of active, retired and deceased Navy, Marine Corps, Army and Air Force personnel and civilians. Address requests to Mrs. Roy S. Benson, Qtrs Q, Navy Yard, Washington, D.C. 20390.

STATISTICS COMPILED ON 281 students of Air University's Air War College 1967 class show rated officers in class have participated in more than 10,000 combat missions in World War II, Korea and Vietnam. Also, 226 students are veterans of WWII; 131 served in Korea; and 45 have been in Vietnam.

ALL MAJOR AIR Force commands will participate in series of Zero Defects workshops to be held during November-December by Air Force Logistics Command. Workshops, to be held at each of three AFLC air materiel areas, will provide for exchange of ideas and training in administration and promotion of employee motivational programs.

MARINE CORPS PROMOTION list to temporary lieutenant colonel has been published containing 429 names. Roster starts with John A. Reames and ends with Bobby R. Hall.

THREE YEAR APPOINTMENT to Reserve Forces Policy Board goes to Maj. Gen. John W. Kaine, USAR, former CG of 77th Inf Div, USAR. He succeeds Maj. Gen. Stewart deJ. Menist, USAR, whose term has expired. Gen. Kaine is MobDes for Deputy Chief, Army Reserve, Hq., DA, and will complete term as chairman, General Staff Committee on Army National Guard and Army Reserve Policy, in December.

COMMANDERS DIGEST

Published semi-weekly by Press Division Armed Forces News Bureau, 1117 No. 19th St., Arlington, Va. 22209, a unified activity of the Directorate for Armed Forces Information and Education, OASD(M). This publication contains official information, news and policy, direct from Washington authorized sources. Reproduction of content is authorized. Suggested dateline for materials used is WASHINGTON (AFNB).

Background for Commanders

NATO AND EUROPEAN SECURITY *

It is said that our involvement in the war in Vietnam diverts our attention from the problems of Europe. Nothing could be farther from the truth. We are very much aware that security in today's world is indivisible; this is the chief reason we are facing up to our responsibilities in Southeast Asia.

There is no doubt that the aggression we are forced to meet in Vietnam imposes a heavy burden. The conduct of this war demands of our leaders constant attention. But this attention does not in any way lessen our conviction that the future of the world, for better or for worse, will be influenced decisively by what happens in the Atlantic-European area.

The U.S. nuclear deterrent alone cannot prevent war in Europe. The security Europe enjoys today is due primarily to the defense organization of the alliance—the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It is this organization, binding together all of the members of the alliance, that deters aggression by making our common defense credible to our opponent.

The basic concepts underlying NATO are sound. The best evidence of this is the simple fact that the Atlantic area remains intact.

NATO'S Command Structure

Of the many concepts underlying NATO, that of most critical importance is the maintenance of an integrated command structure, both in peacetime and in war, symbolized at the top by the Supreme Allied Commander. It is this principle which is at stake in the present NATO crisis. In considering the current situation, the NATO countries must not only weigh the intrinsic military value of troops. They must also determine whether or not the troops concerned are in a position to undertake a military role consistent with the requirements for an alliance capable of defending Europe and the Atlantic area.

If the principle of integrated command over forces committed to the common defense were to be generally

abandoned, there would be no assurance that a successful defense of Europe could be made.

Our forces operate in the heart of Europe—many thousands of miles from home. They are, *de facto*, integrated in Europe. We must therefore be sure that we and our allies can act effectively together, that there is prior planning, and that all of the necessary relationships between our forces are established in advance.

Continued Presence of U.S. Forces

Our troop levels have not been reduced, and we have no plans to do so in the future. High American officials have been forced to repeat that our troops will stay in Germany as long as they are needed and wanted in the common defense. We mean what we say.

It is true that occasional adjustments arising out of minor reorganizations and the obsolescence of weapons have, from time to time, led to small withdrawals; however, these have been compensated for by increased effectiveness. We have recently made public all the available facts about a temporary "draw down," the peak of which has now passed, of about 15,000 out of our 225,000 troops. This represents merely a "slippage" in filling vacancies created by transfers out of Germany. This "draw down" was never greater than 6 percent of our forces, which still leaves our divisions almost double the size of those of other NATO countries. The "draw down" will, moreover, be fully compensated for by the end of the year.

Recently, too, there has been speculation that the United States would automatically withdraw divisions from Germany in the event Soviet divisions are taken out of East Germany. There has been no confirmation of Soviet intentions to withdraw. On the contrary, available evidence indicates that the firepower of Soviet troops in East Germany is stronger than ever.

Even if Soviet troop withdrawals did in fact take place, the reaction of the West would not necessarily involve automatic complementary withdrawals. Naturally, however, if a major withdrawal of Soviet troops from East Germany were to take place, the alliance would have to consider the new situation thereby created.

We in the West can look forward to the future without illusions but with reasonable confidence. Western Europe is enjoying the fruits of political stability and unprecedented prosperity. If NATO is undergoing changes, it nevertheless remains a bulwark against aggression.

* Excerpts from address by Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany George C. McGhee at Tutzing, Germany.

Medical Officers from 7 Nations Attend Navy Course at Bethesda

Senior naval medical officers from seven allied nations are attending a three month familiarization course at the Bethesda, Md., Naval Medical hospital.

Purpose of the course is to keep up with the "newest techniques and developments in naval medicine."

Countries with one or more representatives attending are: Republic of Vietnam, Republic of China, Italy, Republic of Korea, Republic of the Philippines, Thailand and the Federal Republic of Germany.

New Clearing Blade Under Army Tests

A clearing blade that will fell trees quickly and safely is under test for possible military procurement at the U.S. Army Mobility Equipment Command's Engineer Research and Development Laboratories, Ft. Belvoir, Va.

The blade features a "stinger", or sharp projection on its left side, used to split large trees which are then sheared off at ground level. The same blade can also be used to pile cut material in windows or to construct drainage ditches.

Engineers at the laboratories have been able to clear an acre in one hour with a 4,600-pound blade mounted on a tractor.

Savings Bond Sales Up For 6th Straight Month

August marked the sixth consecutive month to show continued gains over 1965 in the purchase of Savings Bonds.

The gains followed President Johnson's announcement in February of a new higher 4.15 percent interest rate.

Treasury Department figures show that E Bond sales were the highest for any August since 1945, except for 1963, while combined sales of E and H Bonds were the highest for that month since 1963.

TAC Announces Completion Of Training-Landing Strip

A new assault landing strip, constructed to provide training in C-130 assault landings and takeoffs has been completed at Tactical Air Command's Pope AFB, N.C.

Said to be the first of its kind to be built by the Air Force, the strip was constructed by conventional means and covered with a neoprene-coated nylon material. Then an epoxy material containing grit was rolled on the surface to form a non-skid surface.



LEGION OF MERIT—Maj. Gen. Arno H. Luehman (right), receives the Fourth Oak Leaf Cluster to the Legion of Merit from Lt. Gen. John W. Carpenter, III, Air University Commander, during ceremonies marking Gen. Luehman's retirement from the Air Force.

Army Developing New Food Service System

A field feeding system called SPEED (Subsistence Preparation by Electronic Energy Diffusion) is entering initial development by Army.

Primary system objective is ultra rapid and simple field food service. It offers a new approach to streamlined feeding through microwave ovens and latest food packing techniques.

The all-electric kitchen unit and bakery system will be powered by turbine generators. Units will be pod-contained for loading, towing or airlifting.

New Army Bridge Speeds Armored Crossings in RVN

Armored vehicles in Vietnam are now crossing canals more rapidly with help of an expedient bridge designed from field-available materials by Army's Engineer Research and Development Laboratories, Ft. Belvoir, Va.

The 30-foot span bridge can be built and operational in 12 minutes, compared to four hours formerly required for crossing a column of 12 armored personnel carriers or M-41 tanks.

Federal Agencies Study Bird Hazards to Aviation

The military departments have joined other government representatives in an Inter-Agency Bird Hazard Committee to develop methods for reducing the danger of collisions between birds and airplanes.

Military representatives are Commander W. H. Hile and Commander D. G. Patterson, USN; George Bean, USA; and E. A. Seaman, USAF. Chairman of the committee is Brian J. Vincent, Federal Aviation Agency.

Damage to aircraft structures and engines caused by bird strikes costs millions of dollars each year in the U.S., according to FAA.

New Film Processing System Shown by AF

A new film processing system for fast reaction, high-quality aerial reconnaissance photography that simultaneously develops a negative and a high resolution positive transparency in 30 seconds was demonstrated recently by the U.S. Air Force.

The system—called Bimat—uses a diffusion transfer technique offering several advantages to mobile tactical field forces.

The speed in acquiring the positive imagery is invaluable in the first-phase interpretation of aerial reconnaissance photography. It could be scanned in the air, jettisoned to the ground, or made available to photo interpreters as soon as the plane lands.

Scholarship Fund Started For Sons of 1st Inf. Dead

Soldiers of Army's 1st "Big Red One" Infantry Division have started a scholarship fund assisting sons of unit members killed on duty in Vietnam.

Suggestion for such a fund was made by Maj. Gen. W. E. DePuy, division commander, who said the response was overwhelming.